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Happenings at GSU

- 3 Convocation, 10 a.m., GSU Theatre. Luncheon on patio follows program.
- 3 Add/Drop Registration, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Main Lobby. Continues through Sept. 9.
- 4 Viewbook Unveiling, 9 a.m., Engbretson Hall.
- 6 "Threatened Spaces," Mixed Media and Video Screening—Opening Reception, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Infinity Gallery. On exhibit through Sept. 27.
- 10 BGU Stylebook Meeting, 2-3 p.m., Hall of Honors.
- 10 "Connections," Employee Training Session, 9:30 a.m., D1702.
- 12 GSU Art Gallery Opening Reception, 5 to 9 p.m., E-Lounge.
- 14 "Dave Rudolf Children's Show," 2 p.m., West End Cafe.

Grant awarded to Division of Nursing

The Division of Nursing has received \$27,094 to help graduate students meet tuition and fee expenses.

The Department of Health and Human Services grant is a first at GSU, said Dr. Annie Lawrence, chairperson of the division.

Assistance is available for full and part-time students who will complete a master's degree in nursing at GSU by June 1992. Students must be interested in working as nurse practitioners, clinical specialists or nurse midwives.

Dr. Lawrence said money will be made available for tuition and fees, stipends and certain travel allowances for trainees.

The number of students served will depend on the number applying, Dr. Lawrence explained.

Education proftests innovative approaches

A classroom with picket fences, a tree fort, study carrels, and an experimental teaching method gave students in Sauk Village District 168 and Dr. Heather Harder the chance to be reinvigorated by learning.

Only two things were typical about the classroom—a teacher was present and students were learning. The approaches, methods and even the students made it an atypical setting. In Dr. Harder's classroom, students were given freedom, choice and responsibility coupled with partnership learning.

The changes at Wagoner School were part of a summer project by the professor of education who wanted to revisit an elementary classroom setting and learn what happens when teachers implement the latest educational research.

"Research shows that we give 4-year-olds choices," Dr. Harder said. But when the children come to school, they tend to lose their options and join in doing things as everyone else does.



Dr. Heather Harder leads a discussion in the specially designed reading area of her classroom at Wagoner School.

(Continued on page 5)

GSU environment given excellent rating by recent IDOL study

A study by the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) gives the GSU building and its environs an excellent rating, according to Dr. Virginio Pucci, vice president of administration and planning.

No problems were discovered with the air and water systems on campus, or with any part of the main building. This study was "totally separate from the work and opinion survey of the GSU Campus Environmental Task Force," Dr. Pucci said, "although many of their concerns and suggestions were incorporated in this study."

The safety inspection was conducted April 12, 1991, by an IDOL representative

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Cafeteria Menu

(Week of September 2 to 6)

Monday—Cafeteria closed for holiday.

Tuesday—Lima bean soup. Roast turkey breast platter; macaroni, beef, tomato casserole; pizza burger.

Wednesday—Turkey noodle soup. London broil platter; linguini with clam sauce; Chicago-style hot dog.

Thursday—Cabbage soup. Baked chicken Maryland platter; rotini and ham au gratin casserole; Sloppy Joe.

Friday—New England clam chowder. Stir fried shrimp over rice; broccoli and cheese quiche; Italian beef sandwich.

(Week of September 9 to 13)

Monday—Turkey vegetable soup. Baked chicken breast cordon bleu platter; fresh beef fajitas; grilled ham and cheese sandwich.

Tuesday—Beef rice soup. Baked stuffed pork chop platter; beef chop suey over rice; bacon cheeseburger.

Wednesday—French onion soup. Veal cutlet Provencale platter; chicken Tetrastini; grilled Reuben sandwich.

Thursday—Cream of chicken soup. Smoked sausage with vegetable saute; beef lasagna with Parmesan toast; Monte Cristo sandwich.

Friday—Cream of vegetable soup. Fried shrimp platter; tuna noodle casserole; grilled patty melt.

(Menu subject to change)

Administrative Profile

GSU challenges met by accounting professor

By Marilyn Thomas

In 1974, Dr. Sheldon Mendelson was completing his doctorate in business education at Colorado State University. His plans for the future were sketchy.

Then a faculty member told him Governors State University was recruiting for its College of Business and Public Service. Dr. Mendelson got the job.

"I think I had the longest interview of anyone," he recalls, "because it was held in this building (which was under construction), and my interview was an excuse for people to come and see what this place looked like."

Initially, Dr. Mendelson was excited about teaching at GSU because of its innovativeness in programs, grading and curriculum. "I thought the idea of competency-based learning was great," he said. But he, like many other faculty members, eventually became frustrated with competencies because systems were not in place for its administration.

Competencies are returning, but in a new form, Mendelson said. Today, he explained, faculty syllabi spell out what students are expected to accomplish, much as the old competencies did, but students receive grades for their work, and the Registrar's Office can accurately record and file all student records.

When GSU academic arrangements were revised to be more traditional, Dr. Mendelson was forced to follow suit. Because the business education program was dropped from the curriculum, he went back to school for "retraining," he said, so he could teach accounting. Today Dr. Mendelson is an

accounting professor and acting chairperson of the Division of Accounting/Finance/Economics.

Accounting also has changed. "The big changes started in 1972," he noted. Many more rules and procedures were put in place. "It has to do with the complexities of the business world and accountability to government, business, stockholders and the public."

Today's use of computers and data systems also has led to changes in the field. "I believe in the next 10 or 20 years we'll need people who are more specialized and technical," he said.

For that reason, Dr. Mendelson has proposed a master's degree in accounting for the GSU curriculum. Rather than a broad program like the master's in business administration, this curriculum will narrow the concentration to prepare students for the certified public accountant (CPA) examination and give them the technical skills the accounting field requires.

Dr. Mendelson helped revamp GSU's Professional Careers in Accounting Series. The program offers students CPA exam preparation courses. The professor also is planning a Certified Management Accounting Series that will offer courses for the CMA exam for private accountants.

And, he is working with faculty to organize a placement program for students in the division.

Dr. Mendelson brings both public and private experience to the classroom. For more than four years he served as an accountant in charge of grants for the Syracuse public school system.

He also left GSU for a year to serve as comptroller for a savings and loan. That wasn't a pleasant experience, though, because the directors didn't want to hear his reports of the institution's poor financial position. Eventually, the sav-

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Sheldon Mendelson

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The Grapevine

Zalewski works as high school science consultant

What is the makeup of commercial bleach? What happens to a cake baked from scratch if an ingredient is missing?

Students in Community High School District 218 and Bremen High School District 228 found out this summer through a pilot science education project funded by the state and designed to enhance student retention and interest in science.

Dr. Leon Zalewski, dean of the College of Education and a science education professor, was a consultant to the project evaluating materials for teachers and reviewing preliminary student opinions of the project.

Sculpture park to be featured on Channel 11

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park will be featured on a segment of "Wild Chicago" produced by WTTW-TV. The show's host, Ben Hollis, was given a tour of the park by docent Stephanie Ulcej and Marilyn Thomas, coordinator of public information, with special assistance from Bill Van Dyke of the grounds crew who drove the camera crew around the park.

Hollis admitted GSU was "quite a distance" from the Channel 11 studios, but said he was very glad to have come out for the tour. After walking through the "House of Cars 2" and "House Divided," ringing the "Prairie Chimes" and swaying in "For Lady Day," Hollis said he found participatory art to be "lots of fun."

The segment will be edited and scheduled into the show's fall programming.

Nominations open for Affirmative Action Fellow

Glen Abbott, special assistant to the president and affirmative action officer, is accepting nominations for GSU's 1992-93 Board of Governors Universities Affirmative Action Fellow. The program is designed to expand and diversify the pool of leadership talent within the system and to increase minority and female access to top-level higher education administrative positions across the country.

Applicants are expected to be full-time continuing faculty or administrative and professional staff with a doctorate or generally recognized terminal degree and three years of experience in the BGU system.

GSU is hosting a reception at 1:30 p.m. on Sept. 24 in the Hall of Honors for people interested in the program.

Woodard, Scouts on board Navy's USS Yorktown

Did you have an exciting weekend? Bob Woodard, superintendent of the University Print Shop, did when he recently spent a weekend aboard the retired USS Yorktown docked outside Charleston, S.C.

Woodard and another leader of Boy Scout Troop 148 in Park Forest drove five boys to South Carolina for the August weekend stay. A retired Navy lieutenant commander checked them in and, although they weren't given deck duty, the Scouts and leaders slept on the bunks and ate on board the decommissioned ship.

Class attitudes research survey data available

GSU classes last fall helped graduate student Mike Anderson conduct research that included findings on attitudes toward homosexuality based on the presenter's sexual orientation. His advisor, Dr. David Matteson, said the summary of Anderson's work is available. For details, call Dr. Matteson at extension 2399.

Excellent rating given

(Continued from page 1)

from the Division of Occupational Health and Safety. A campus air quality study was conducted by IDOL representatives May 6, 1991.

"I am pleased to report that of the areas inspected, no serious or major hazards were discovered (in the safety inspection), although a number of relatively minor technical infractions were cited," he said.

Those include refrigerators that don't have three-prong grounded-type plugs, paper cutters without safety covers for the blades and some of the above floor telephone/electrical junction boxes that are located in walkways.

The most serious violation was in the sculpture studio in F Building. The storage room was deemed a fire and safety hazard.

Dr. Piucci said all of these items have or will be corrected. The air sampling survey for any harmful chemicals included testing in the College of Arts and Sciences labs, Instructional Communications Center, the library, print and paint studios, as well as representative samples from all three floors from A through F buildings.

Testing was not done for harmful microbial pathogens because that testing is "usually unnecessary for general office buildings unless specific medical suspicions or questions warrant," he explained. That type of testing will be done when GSU undergoes an extensive heating/ventilation/air conditioning study next fiscal year.

The campus water supply, provided by the Illinois Consumers Water Co., "meets all state standards and requirements" set by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, he noted.

"These important safety procedures for the GSU campus have been realized and completed with the valuable assistance and cooperation of the Illinois Department of Labor, the GSU Safety Committee, the GSU Environmental Task Force, Personnel and Physical Plant Operations," the vice president added.

Dan Bernd says 'good-bye' after 21 years

Governors State's "dean of the bard" retired this month.

Dr. Daniel Bernd, one of GSU's original faculty members, relinquished his position as professor of English after 21 years.

"I've always known that Governors State University is the place for me," he told well-wishers after a lively "roast" by colleagues, students and staff on Aug. 13. "I know the kind of students we have here, the kind of colleagues I have here. At the end of the day, I'm very grateful I've had the chance to affect their lives."

Dr. Bernd was encouraged to come to GSU by **Dr. William Engbretson**, the university's first president. They had worked together in 1967 and '68 at the U.S. Office of Education in Washington, D.C., where Dr. Bernd was the project officer for the National Institute for Advanced Studies in Teaching Disadvantaged Youth and for Training of Teachers of Teachers, known as the Triple T-Project.

Having been his boss, Dr. Engbretson knew the kind of work Dr. Bernd could do. He wanted him to help select staff, plan the curriculum and take on a myriad of tasks at this new university.

Dr. Bernd said he came "with the intention of being a faculty member," but his first assignment was director of academic development. He also served as assistant dean of the College of Cultural Studies and coordinator of the Liberal Education Center.

Among Dr. Bernd's initial projects was organizing the University Assembly representing faculty, staff and students. He was head of the assembly for four years. Some called it a panacea.

He saw it as a means of galvanizing all factions at the university. It worked for a number of years. Once the assembly splintered into faculty, civil service and student senates, Dr. Bernd served on the Faculty Senate.

His nickname, given in jest, is "Professor Mumbles," though none doubted that what he said under his breath was any less important than what he said out loud. Everyone on campus holds Dr. Bernd in high regard, and in return, he views this university with highest regard.

esting and exciting place I have ever been (eight universities as a teacher or student). I came here from one of those large state universities where the English Department is half the size of the entire GSU faculty. It was a fine and quiet place, and sometimes I miss it.

"But upon my occasional visits to that comfortable and handsome campus in southern California, I am always struck by how unutterably *dull* it is compared to Governors State. I compare the narrow range of specialization and subjects which I would have had to

stick to, had I remained, with the opportunities at GSU for interdisciplinary courses, which meant we had to consider a wide range of interests from a small faculty base.

"In a curious, almost paradoxical way, I believe that I, and most of the faculty, are better *scholars* and professionals because of GSU..."

"Our wonderful student body...is what makes it so interesting and exciting to teach here.

They give us a sense of being *needed* (when often our simplest task is to get out of their way and let them learn).

"Unlike Harvard, our object was not to recruit a student body that was already so accomplished that it didn't need the faculty for any such mundane matter as instruction, but to see if we could prove to our students how good they are, when they didn't know it.

"And they certainly are a joy in the classroom...I don't think there could be anything more rewarding than to discover and encourage a student who, were we not here, would not have had the opportunity to change her life through higher education."



Dr. Dan Bernd (left) responds to well wishers and acknowledges a number of gifts given to him at his recent retirement party. Bernd's 21 years as a member of GSU's faculty has made him the university's own "Mr. Chips."

All on the GSU campus have recognized Dr. Bernd as a "wise and authoritative voice," **President Leo Goodman-Malamuth II** told the gathering. "His voice was given respect."

The following words were written by Dr. Bernd for GSU's 10th anniversary. They are sentiments he still shares about the place.

"When one comes right down to it, it would appear Governors State University works because it is, in any broad or narrow sense, an institution that does serve its people — its students and the community..."

"For me as a faculty member, it is simple enough: this is the most inter-

New phone system means changes at GSU

When GSU's new phone system is implemented, your extension will begin with either a "4" or "5."

Vince Donahue, consultant on the project, said all extensions will have four numbers, just as they do now, but the first number (either "4" or "5") will be an indication of how that party can be reached.

For example, Donahue said telephones with an extension beginning with "4," such as "4321," will be reached from outside the university by direct dialing 534-4321, or by calling the general GSU number and having a switchboard operator connect the call to "4321," or by calling extension "4321" within the university.

Extensions that begin with "5," such as "5432" will be reached from outside the university only by switchboard operator connection, or by calling extension "5432" within the university.

Donahue said the new phones "will be completely different than what GSU has now. They'll be closer to what most

people have at home. Every phone will have its own four-digit extension."

Special features include a last number redial (LNR) that allows you to push the LNR button and have the



All the wire in the hallway may seem unsightly, but it's the harbinger of good times at GSU because it means a new telephone system is close to reality at last. Many new communication features will be available once the installation process is completed.

phoneredial the last number you called, and saved number redial (SNR) which allows you to store a number in memory, continue to make other calls and then push the SNR button for automatic dialing.

To connect to an outside line, you'll still dial "9," but only "9." Unlike the current system that requires you to dial a second code, such as "9-1" or "9-2-9," Donahue said the new phone system will decide automatically which switch to place the call on.

GSU's general number will remain (708) 534-5000, although some offices will be given direct inward dial (DID) lines that will allow callers outside the university to eliminate the switchboard connection and call their GSU party directly, Donahue explained.

Questions about the new phone system or the work of the Fujitsu Business Communications Systems crew can be directed to Dr. Harvey Varnet on extension 2231, or to Donahue on extension 2107.

Harder uses innovative approaches for learning

(Continued from page 1)

Researchers contend children need to continue making the choices for themselves, the professor said. Some believe the choice option should be offered to children as old as 8 years.

In her classroom, Dr. Harder had first, second and third graders in the same room. They ranged from excellent students to slow learners. She asked to work with these students because they tend to have problems in a regular classroom. Generally, the gifted students get bored quickly and the slower students fall behind, she said.

Working at their own pace, Dr. Harder's students were expected to complete projects in math, reading, writing and vocabulary building each day. One project could take a little longer to do than the others, but it didn't matter. Unlike in a regular classroom where the teacher gives the lesson and the children follow her in-

structions, Dr. Harder allowed for the flexibility of learning at one's own pace.

If students needed help, they could ask her questions, but she wasn't standing at the head of the class. What she found was that she was no longer the instructor. The students worked to keep each other on task. When the need arose, the brighter students would sit and assist the slower ones.

"The students here aren't fragmented by ability," Dr. Harder explained. "There's lots of cooperation and a support system."

In this classroom, students were given responsibility not only for their own work, but also for monitoring the work of others. Each day another student was assigned to be the project checker and verify on the student's project card that the work was completed.

"What I'm doing (as the teacher), isn't as important as what the kids are

doing. The child's making decisions of what to do. The child's moving on and the project cards make them accountable," the professor said. "Once they finished their assigned projects for the day, they can choose their next assignment."

"There's lots of language going on between the students. They don't have to be quiet and listen to the teacher. There's also lots of self-esteem and task recognition development," Dr. Harder added.

She expects school districts soon will be incorporating these educational philosophies. Classrooms in the year 2000 will be redesigned. School reform will force districts to try these and other bold methods of learning.

The professor said, "Research shows that life successes are based on one's self-esteem, interpersonal skills and an ability to communicate. Those are the basis of learning in this classroom."

Prof meets challenges

(Continued from page 2)

ings and loan was forced to close.

But that is the role of the accountant, he argues. "The accounting professional supplies data for the accountability of the business and annoints the business (saying) it is fairly or not fairly representing its economic information to third parties," he explained. "I say it's like a financial checkup of the client, just like a yearly doctor's checkup, and just like a doctor gives a clean bill of health, the accountant is signing off on the business' financial checkup."

In his free time, Dr. Mendelson has written two simulation books for Irwin Publishing that give readers step-by-step instructions from preparing a company's books to writing the checks.

A former college wrestler, Dr. Mendelson includes at least two hours of exercise in his daily routine. The Richton Park resident is originally from Syracuse, N.Y. He received a bachelor's degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology and a master's degree from Syracuse University.

Condolences

To Dr. Ken Weig of the Division of Psychology and Counseling on the death of his mother, Adeline Weig, on Aug. 16.

To Barbara Mucklow in the University Library on the death of her son, Gary, on Aug. 16.

GSUings...

Dr. David Matteson (CE), presenting his paper "India: Paradoxical Attitudes Toward Homosensuality" at the third annual Men's Studies Conference in Tuscon, Ariz., June 6-7; also presenting at the same conference "The Effect of Sex, Educational Media Format and the Sexual Orientation of the Presenter on Attitudes Toward Homosexuality," a paper based on the master's thesis of 1991 graduate **Mike Anderson**... **Dr. Joyce Morishita** (CAS), having a painting in a Springfield exhibition of Illinois artists during July and August... **Dr. Barbara Jenkins** (CE), presenting two workshops with **Nava Sonnenschein**, a Nobel Peace Prize nominee for the past four years, at the National SANE-FREEZE Conference Aug. 10 at Loyola University... **Dr. Mel Muchnik** (PO), being elected to chair the International Resources Group of the 250-member National University Teleconference Network (NUTN)... **Susan Morriss** (A&P), being elected to a second term as regional representative on the board of the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP)... **Dick Pride** (ASR), coordinating the Illinois Association of Collegiate Records and Admissions Officers' (IACRAO) summer workshop at Starved Rock Lodge and Conference Center July 10-12.

Please note...

The Office of Alumni Relations is located at Wagner House along with the offices of the Vice President of Development and Public Affairs and the Governors State University Foundation.

Because some campus signs still indicate that the alumni office is located in the third floor administrative wing of the main campus building, visitors to campus and others often have been misdirected when seeking information on alumni matters.

Please make note of this change so you may properly direct persons in the future when they are seeking the Office of Alumni Relations or Ginni Burghardt, the director of alumni relations.

Send items for inclusion in Governors State University F.Y.I. to the GSU Office of University Relations no later than Sept. 3.



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